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DRUM CIRCLE BRINGS RHYTHM



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU

Tim Kane held a drum circle event sponsored by Belchertown Cultural Council. Kane is a member of the Drum Circle Facilitators Guild last week at the garden by Swift River Elementary School.

BELCHERTOWN

School Committee updates mask policy

Gutekenst remains chair

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – The School Committee met last Thursday to reorganize and update its mask policy following new state guidance regarding masks.

Mask policy

An update on the mask policy was unanimously supported by the School Committee following updates to the state's mask mandate which is set to be lifted on May 29.

School Committee Chair Heidi Gutekenst said the committee needed to update its mask policy following new guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Committee member Mike Knapp said his understanding is that inside of the school buildings masks are required, but not outside.

"If that's current, perhaps the simplest way to have our policy reflect that is to have some minimal changes that will get us through the end of this school year, and those are to strike out references to wearing a mask while on school grounds," Knapp said. "This still requires kids to wear masks on busses or inside buildings."

Superintendent Brian Cameron said revisions to the policy were made.

See **POLICY**, page 2 •

Selectboard reorganize, Turner new chair

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – The Selectboard reorganized and discussed upcoming meetings.

Reorganization

Following the Annual Town Election, new members Nick Pucel and Ron Aponte joined the Selectboard at its meeting on Monday.

Jennifer Turner was elected as chair of Selectboard, Jim Barry was elected vice chair and Ed Boscher was elected as clerk of the Selectboard.

Following the reorganization Turner presented a suggested liaisons for departments and boards for the Selectboard.

Aponte will be the liaison to the senior center, animal control, civil defense, police, fire, historic district, Historical Commission, BOAT and Scholarship Committee.

Pucel will be the liaison to the ADA committee, Town Clerk, Agricultural Commission, CPC committee, Fair Committee,



COURTESY PHOTO

Jennifer Turner was elected as chair of the Selectboard and Jim Barry was elected as vice chair of the Selectboard on Monday.

Communications Committee, BCTV, Board of Health, Cultural Council, trail stewardship and family center.

Barry will have the Board of Registrars, inspection services, rent control, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Lakes Committee, Energy and Sustainability, non-school buildings and grounds,

PVTA, professional engineering, Willard Stebbins Trust Fund for Lake Vale Cemetery, Housing Authority, the Department of Public Works and IDFA.

Boscher will have tax title committee, Finance Committee, Board of Assessors, Recreation Committee, Recreation Department, Technological Advisory Committee, IT, town

accountant, treasurer/collector, Veterans' Services Advisory Board; Veterans' Graves, memorial committee and school committee at Pathfinder.

Turner will have the law account, Personnel Board, moderator, Planning Board, EDIC, Pioneer Valley Planning

See **REORGANIZE**, page 3 •

GRANBY

Granby School Committee hosts budget overview

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

GRANBY – The Granby School Committee held a public forum on the fiscal year 2022 budget on Tuesday to provide insight into the \$10.4 million budget.

During the presentation, Granby Public Schools Director of Business Adam Tarquini provided the latest version of the budget is \$10.4 million which was adjusted to include cuts that were made by the schools.

Reviewing the revenue for the school department, there is a projected \$1.77 million which is down from last year's revenue of \$1.82 million.

The projected deficit is \$450,000 as of Tuesday.

"We made some changes, it was up to \$720,000 and we were tasked to try to reduce some of operating budget to reduce the deficit. We have done that," he said.

Tarquini explained where the deficit is coming from for the FY22 preliminary budget, add-

ing that the "big contributors" to the deficit are the decrease in the required local contribution and a decrease in the additional town allocation.

"Out of our \$10.4 million operating budget, 75% of that is for salaries, stipends, some type of personnel costs. The big take away is that the 25% left for supplies or services when we really get into those numbers doesn't leave us a lot of room when it comes to cuts, to take from those discretionary funds," he said.

The biggest increase in

the budget are insurance and employee retirement.

Including supplies, instructional materials, etc. the schools have \$23,500 for East Meadow and \$18,000, which Tarquini said "is pennies compared to everything else."

"It's really difficult to cut from discretionary, supplies and services funds because we don't have a lot to work with to begin with," he said.

Proposed reductions to help

See **BUDGET**, page 10 •



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COMMUNITY

Granby man sentenced for child exploitation offenses

BOSTON – A Granby man was sentenced on Friday, May 21 in federal court in Springfield for child exploitation offenses.

Jonathan Monson, 39, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni to 40 years in prison and a lifetime of supervised release. In Oct. 2020, Monson was convicted by a federal jury of four counts of sexual exploitation of a minor, eight counts of distribution of child pornography, two counts of receipt of child pornography and one count of possession of child pornography.

At trial, the evidence established that Monson produced sexually explicit images and videos of a child on four occasions in 2017 and 2018. The images and videos were later found on his cell phone. In addition, in June 2017, Monson distributed additional child pornography files to a group on social media. In fact, Monson was trading child pornography videos on social media at 3:30 a.m. with another user, just a few hours before federal agents executed a search warrant at his home. Agents

found additional child pornography files on Monson's phone as a result of the search.

Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel R. Mendell; Acting United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia Kurt R. Erskine; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; and Granby Police Chief Alan Wishart made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex J. Grant of Mendell's Springfield Branch Office prosecuted the case.

The case is brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Seeking oldest Belchertown resident

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Selectboard wishes to present a replica of the Gold Cane to the Town's oldest resident.

The town's records indicate that the oldest Belchertown resident was born on June 26, 1918. If you have information on an older individual, please contact the Office of the Selectboard by telephone at (413) 323-0403, or by mail at The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007.

The deadline to submit names for consideration is 12 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

The Boston Post presented the Town of Belchertown with the gold-headed cane in 1909, for the sole purpose of passing it on to the Town's oldest resident. The gold cane is showing its own age and is displayed in Lawrence Memorial Hall for all the public to see. The cane is a finely crafted one that was manufactured by J.F. Fradley & Company of New York, of carefully selected Gaboon ebony from the Congo, Africa. The head is made of rolled 14 karat gold.

Personnel Board openings

BELCHERTOWN – Belchertown's Personnel Board has an opening that the town would like to fill as soon as possible. As a member of the Personnel Board, you will meet once or twice a year to assist in the administration of the town's personnel system by interpreting and providing advice on the town's personnel by-law. Volunteers with legal and/or human resource experience would be a great fit for this position.

If interested in serving, send a letter of interest to the Town Moderator: Amanda Halperin c/o Town Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 629, Belchertown, MA 01007 or email Halperin at afhalperin@gmail.com.

POLICY • from page 1

"We kept some of the face covering policy," he said. "We took out the CDC, because we've really been relying on DESE and the Department of Public Health, we took out 'on school grounds.' Everyone has to wear them in schools."

Governor Charlie Baker's guidance is that "students no long have to wear masks outdoors even if (six feet of social) distance cannot be maintained."

Cameron added the schools will continue to make changes to the policy based on the DESE and Department of Public Health recommendations, "so if something changes we don't necessarily have to come back to have you vote on it."

Guttenst said she felt the amendment was necessary given how often guidelines are changing.

"I almost feel like COVID is ending as quickly as it started, but I feel like in a couple of days they're going to say you don't need a mask at all," she said. "I feel like anything is possible."

Reorganization

Following the Annual Town Election last Monday, Amy Lamothe joined the School Committee and Ruby Bansal was reelected to the committee.

The committee members opted to stay in its previous arrangement, keeping Guttenst as chair of the committee, Bansal as vice chair of the committee and Diane Brown as secretary of the committee.

The committee opted to do subcommittee designations at its next meeting.

Belchertown resident recognized for dispatch work

SPRINGFIELD –Belchertown resident Brooke Patterson along with 100 Western Massachusetts Paramedics and EMS professionals were recognized by the city of Springfield and awarded in Springfield Symphony Hall on Tuesday, May 18.

The group was honored in recognition of the 46th annual National EMS Week. Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, Fire Commissioner BJ Calvi and Police Commissioner Cheryl Clapprood joined American Medical Response in recognizing and congratulating Brooke Patterson for her delivery of a baby girl while conducting a 911 call.



COURTESY PHOTO
Belchertown resident Brooke Patterson was recently recognized for her work as a dispatcher for AMR last week.



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Five local businesses receive microenterprise funding

STAFF REPORT

BELCHERTOWN – Five businesses in Belchertown have been awarded \$10,000 through Microenterprise Grant funding available through the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation.

Native Lumber, Shady Glen Dog Kennel, Contented Cats,

Theatrix and April Eve Images received grants which are for small businesses effected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are grants up to \$25,000 available to local businesses with five or less employees.

For those seeking more information or to apply for a microenterprise grant go to www.qvcdc.org.

REORGANIZE • from page 1

Commission, town common, town clock and Patrick Center reuse committee as well as ex-officio for the library.

Goals and objectives meeting

Turner said the board has held a meeting for the past two years to determine goals and objectives for the upcoming year as a board. The board is tentatively planning for a date in late June.

“I would suggest we do that this year sooner rather than later,” Turner said. “I know there are a number of goals and objectives we outlined that we should take a look at to see where they are sitting, reprioritize get that under our belt for this current board.”

The board decided to wait until

after the annual town meeting.

Town Administrator Gary Brougham said the board might be better served to allow members to check in with their respective boards through their liaison roles.

“With the designation of the liaison duties, there were a number of things that were discussed previously that never came to fruition and maybe the folks who have the new liaison responsibilities may want to look at the list to see what was thought to be strategic planning before and take suggestions on whether we’re going to move on with those,” said Brougham.

He said he wants to be able to revisit emergency planning with a new fire chief, superintendent and other leadership in town.

SENIORS

Older adults return to exercise



COURTESY PHOTO

Belchertown Council on Aging recently opened up to masked, outdoor activities earlier this month.

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Senior Center excitedly welcomed back existing participants as well as new attendees to both Healthy Bones and Balance and Tai Chi Classes in early May.

Both classes are volunteer run and are currently free to all attendees. Participants from all skill levels are welcome and may

attend any or all classes whenever their schedules permit.

Each class focuses on strength and balance through a series of exercises and movements. Each participant can work at his or her own pace in this welcoming and supportive environment.

Those 60 and older are welcome to call Katy Martin for more information or simply stop by

the side parking lot on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:45 a.m. for Healthy Bones and Balance, and Tuesdays and Fridays at 11:15 a.m. for Tai Chi, weather permitting. Participants must bring any items needed for comfort - large hat, water etc., and be aware that access to the building and bathrooms is not currently permitted, due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Walk-ins (and fly-ins) welcome.

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Recreation Dept. talks progress on projects

MELINA BOURDEAU
Staff writer

BELCHERTOWN – Belchertown Recreation Department Director Kyle Thibeault provided an update on the status of the disc golf project off of Constantino Field and the new basketball courts by the Chestnut Hill Elementary School.

Disc golf

The parking lot of Constantino Field was redone replacing a chain from one end of the parking lot area to the other.

Department of Public Works Director Steve Williams said the department was asked to delineate the parking area to secure the existing playing fields from vehicles ahead of the opening of the course.

“Universal Forest Products (Sean Simmer and staff) provided all the materials to make this happen, at no cost to the town,” he wrote in an email to the Sentinel. “They are located in Belchertown off Bay Road and are always eager to help. It is this kind of support and generosity that makes Belchertown a great place to be.”

Thibeault said the new fence is a welcome improvement for the current and future use of the area.

“It allows people to use that are without worrying if there is a chain or not, which meant being able to get up there,” he said at last week’s Recreation Commission meeting. “That not only helps in terms of eventually having a disc golf course there but also some of the parking issues.”

Thibeault said the department is currently working members of the Conservation Commission to identify where the wetlands and areas of concerns are at the proposed disc golf hole locations which are being marked with flags on the property.

“Once I have (the flagged areas) we’re get it uploaded to GIS to get an idea what is what wetland and what is under the Conservation Director and commission’s jurisdiction,” said Thibeault.

Working with the course designer Brian Giggey to “go back to the meeting we had with the public, identify some of the concerns from the public



Wooden fences were installed at Constantino Recreation Area off Sargent St, which now secure the existing playing fields from vehicles ahead of the opening.

and try to address them.”

“We have revamped some of the pole layouts in relation to how they are to certain property lines,” he said. “There were people who reached out to me personally to ask questions certain things. Obviously nothing is finalized yet, once we have the flagging done, we may need to make changes in terms of the conservation perspective and then the next step is to present to the Conversation Commission.”

He said he will inform the commission and the public when the meeting date is set.

Basketball courts

The conversion of the old tennis courts to new basketball courts at the Chestnut Hill Central Recreation Complex is nearly complete according to Thibeault and Williams.

“DPW employees are finishing the installation of the backboards and hoops in late April,” Williams wrote. “In late spring or early summer we are hoping that the remainder of the funding will be in place to paint the surface of both courts, repair the lights, install fencing, and restore the lawn areas.”

Thibeault said the Recreation Department hopes to be able to get CPC money for the installation of new lights.

“In July, if the CPC article passed



The conversion of the old tennis courts to new basketball courts at the Chestnut Hill Central Recreation Complex is nearly complete. DPW employees are finishing the installation of the backboards and hoops last month.

by Town Meeting vote, then we can replace the current lights out there, add fencing along the Chestnut Hill driveway and other additions to the area not just basketball court to improve that area,” he said.

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Pack 57 held Arrow of Light ceremony and crossover

BELCHERTOWN - In a small, outdoor ceremony Cub Scout Pack 57 held its annual Arrow of Light and Crossover ceremony. Four scouts from Pack 57, Den 6: James "JD" Carey, Ethan Davis, Ryan Mavlougan, and Evan Sherwood completed requirements including Building a Better World, Outdoor Adventurer, Scouting Adventures, and Duty to God to earn their Arrow of Light rank; the highest achievement one can earn in Cub Scouts. The scouts "crossed over" the bridge and were welcomed by members of Belchertown's Troop 507.

Carey started Cub Scouts as a bear (third grade), Sherwood started as a tiger (first grade), and Mavlougan and Davis started as lions (Kindergarten). Each year the scouts had a new set of requirements to complete and each year they expanded on the knowledge from the year before. The scouts are looking forward to new adventures as they join Troop 507 and continue their path to Eagle.

Cub Scouts is a program for boys and girls in kindergarten through grade 5. Being a Cub Scout is more than something to do; it's all about the person she/he will become. Scouting promotes being outside and caring for the world. As a scout, children learn how to camp and hike without leaving a trace and how to



(Left to right) Front row: Scouts Zach Restucci, Ryan Mavlougan, Ethan Davis, Evan Sherwood, James "JD" Carey, Matt Plant, Neal Priestly. Back row: Mike Restucci, Aiden Plant, Ryan Priestly, Zach Mavlougan, Liam Sherwood, Tim Plant.

take care of the land. They study wildlife up close and learn about nature. Scouts have the opportunity to fish, shoot slingshots and arrows (archery), hike, camp, and

much more.

For more information about

Pack 57 you can check out their Facebook page at Belchertown

Pack 57 or email 57.membership-chair@gmail.com.



(Left to right) Four scouts from troop 57 earned their Arrow of Light rank are Ryan Mavlougan, Ethan Davis, Evan Sherwood, and James "JD" Carey.



(Left to right) Ryan Priestly, Liam Sherwood, Zach Mavlougan, leader Neal Priestly and Zach Restucci.

COURTESY PHOTOS





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■ OPINION

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

What is the best time to claim Social Security?

RUSSELL GLOOR

Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I will be 64 in May of this year, and I'd like to know the best time to claim Social Security.
Signed: Anxious to Retire

Dear Anxious: First, please understand that there is no one "best time" to claim your Social Security benefit, because when you should claim depends upon several factors, such as:

- Your current health
- Your life expectancy
- Your immediate financial need
- Whether you are married
- Whether you are still working

When you should claim also depends upon your personal benefit goals. For example, if you wish to maximize your monthly Social Security benefit amount, you can best do that by simply waiting until age 70 to claim. For each full year you delay past your full retirement age (FRA), your Social Security benefit will grow by 8%, up to age 70 when you get the maximum you're entitled to. If you are married and die first, that will also provide your widow with a higher benefit as your survivor if your wife's own benefit is less than yours. But waiting until age 70 to maximize isn't for everyone.

If you are in poor health and don't expect to enjoy at least average longevity (about 84 for a man your age now), then claiming earlier would be prudent. But claiming earlier also means a smaller benefit. Your full retirement age (FRA) is when you get 100% of the benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working. Your FRA is 66 ½ and if you wait longer than that you will earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) of .667% for each full month you delay. That means that if you delay until 70, your Social Security benefit will be 28% more than it would be at your FRA. But if you claim before you have reached your FRA, your benefit amount will be permanently reduced by .556% for each full month earlier than your FRA that you claim. If, for example, you claim your Social Security to start at age 64, your benefit will be cut by about 17% from what you'd get by waiting until your FRA to claim. And, if you are married, that smaller benefit is what your widow's survivor benefit would be based upon if you die first.

Anytime Social Security benefits are claimed before you have reached your full retirement age, you are subject to Social Security's "earnings test" which, if you are working, limits how much you can earn before Social Security takes back some of your benefits. For 2021, the annual earnings limit is \$18,960, and if that is exceeded, they will take back benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. The earnings test applies until you reach your FRA, after which there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn. In your specific situation, if you were to claim for your benefits to start mid-year (e.g., in May at age 64), you would be subject to a monthly earnings limit of \$1,580 for the remaining months of 2021, and if you exceed that monthly limit in any month, you won't be entitled to any benefits for that month. Then in 2022 you'll be subject to the annual limit, which isn't yet published but will be slightly more than the 2021 limit.

Exceeding the earnings limit means that Social Security will make you repay some of your benefits and, unless you make special arrangements to do otherwise, they will withhold future benefits until they recover what you owe. That means going without benefits for some months, and if you have a spouse or other dependent(s) collecting on your record, their benefits will also be suspended for that amount of time.

So, as you can see there is no one simple answer to your question of when the best time is to claim Social Security. But a careful look at your personal circumstances relative to the above information should help you make that decision.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



LETTER

In response to PROforestation

I am very happy the sixth graders brought to light bill H 1002 and bill H 912.

Bill H 1002 would tie the hands and take all the tools out of their toolbox on Massachusetts Department Fish and Wildlife land for 30% of their property to create wildlife habitat for endangered, protected and otherwise declining species.

No longer would they be able to manage land to create habitat but rather leave it to natural progression as in forever wild. Some people may think the best thing to do for wildlife is nothing but that certainly is not the case. There are no old growth dependent species that we know of. Researchers and scientist from Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife use data to create habitat for species that most need it and many times tree harvesting to both store carbon and create early successional habitat are what are prescribed to create their objective. Bill H 912 seeks to alter the chapter 132 regulations which is what regulates timber harvesting for both public and private land.

This bill also strives to promote mature forests without any new growth. Pretty much gives the Audubon salute to much

needed wildlife habitat. Bills submitted by representatives and senators are frequently given to them by constituent and are required by law to submit them whether they support them or not. From a carbon standpoint in Massachusetts the majority of the harvested trees are made into lumber. Lumber is one of the best ways to store carbon as it retains the same amount of carbon in it as the day it was harvested. Take a look at all the wood in our homes... all stored carbon. The great thing about Massachusetts is all native species trees re-seed themselves growing trees to take the place of the harvested ones. After five to six years these new trees actually exceed the amount of carbon previously absorbed the larger trees they replaced. It's a great system though never brought up by the artis. I would recommend contacting a habitat biologist from Mass Fish and Wildlife to dispel the myth of old growth forest being best for wildlife and learn the importance of forest management to create much needed habitat.

Ken Conkey,
Wildlife advocate

Tomato planting 101

With the quintessential frost-free target date of Memorial Day just days away, I think it's the perfect time to encourage folks to give gardening a try. Growing tomatoes is a good place to start. First, because growing them is relatively easy and secondly, because you will be delighted with a great return for your investment of a little money and some time. No super-market tomato could ever compare to one that is homegrown and sun-ripened.

First of all, head to the local nursery and select a plant. There are many varieties to choose from. Do you prefer slicing tomatoes, cherry or pear-shaped for salads, or meaty paste types? If you plan on growing your tomato in a patio container, it may be best to settle on a determinate or bush type that will require next to no staking and will remain tidy in its pot.

Find a spot in your yard that gets at least six hours of sun a day. Less than that and you will have more leaves than fruit. If necessary, remove existing sod to accommodate your plant(s). Tomatoes should be spaced about 18 inches to two feet away from one another. For one plant prepare a section two feet wide by two feet deep. Now, go ahead a dig a fairly deep hole. How deep depends on the size of your transplant. Since tomatoes have the ability to form roots along their stem, plan on burying one-half to three-quarters

of the stem in addition to the root ball. Don't worry; although this planting depth sounds extreme, it will be better for the plant in the long run. In my experience, a cup or two of well-rotted manure or aged compost mixed with the soil in the bottom of the planting hole along with a sprinkling of balanced organic fertilizer is all the food your tomatoes will need during the growing season.

If you plan on growing your tomato in a container, choose one that is at least a foot wide and deeper if possible. Fill it 50/50 with potting soil and garden loam or compost. The blend will be lightweight and nutritious.

Tomatoes need support in the form of a cage or tall bamboo stakes wrapped with twine at regular intervals. Although your transplants may seem puny now, go ahead and install the supports at planting time. Once planting is complete be sure to give them a hearty drink. Continue to water every other day for the first week or so if nature doesn't provide adequate rainfall. Watering at the base of the plant will direct water to the roots and keep most of the foliage dry. A good practice in disease prevention. Once the plants are established, a deep watering twice a week is all that is necessary. Mulch of some kind, be it



Roberta McQuaid

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EDUCATION

BHS semi-finalist in 'As Schools Match Wits'

SPRINGFIELD – The historic 60th season of As Schools Match Wits concluded on Saturday, May 22, with the broadcast on NEPM TV of the championship match between Belchertown High School and Lenox Memorial. Last year's 59th season was cut short by COVID-19, but with new safety guidelines and carefully designed protocols, the 60th season proceeded with the participation of 20 local high schools.

Four teams participated in the semifinal rounds, which were broadcast on NEPM on Saturday, May 15. Lenox Memorial was pitted against Amherst Regional and Belchertown High faced Smith Academy. Belchertown High and Lenox Memorial advanced to the championship.

Victory was particularly sweet for Lenox Memorial, given the cancellation of last season's playoff and championship rounds.

"Lenox Memorial and Belchertown were truly the two best teams this season and worthy of winning the Collamore cup," noted Mark St. Jean, Westfield State University Executive Producer for As Schools Match Wits. "But it was really good to see Lenox win a hard-fought championship match because after the 2019-2020 season's



Belchertown High School students competed against Lenox students in the recent "As Schools Match Wits" last week.

COURTESY PHOTO

qualifying round, they were the number one seed heading into the playoffs. Unfortunately, those playoffs never happened due to the pandemic. So, it was nice they had a chance to come back and win it this season."

ASMW pits teams of western New England high schoolers against each other in a fun, but competitive game of academic performance. The competition is open to both public and private high schools throughout western New England.

Faculty advisors play an important role in the process and

many jumped at the opportunity to sign up their school's teams this year.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to work with our team this year, said Stephen Vigneux, Belchertown High School's ASMW Faculty Advisor. "They are terrific students and wonderful people. As seniors, I know they have missed out on many opportunities due to the pandemic, so being able to compete and distinguish themselves on ASMW this season by making a run to the championship match has been such a gift. Kudos to everyone

who made this incredible season of ASMW possible and my deepest gratitude to my team members for representing themselves and our Belchertown High School community so well."

But, in the end, it all comes down to the students.

"This season of ASMW has been most gratifying for us — that there was an opportunity for the students to compete," said Dr. Charles Mattina and Matthew Gottfried, Lenox Memorial ASMW Faculty Advisors. "We've been extremely fortunate to have an extraordinary group of four

kids, pared down to three for each match, and they worked their butts off to get to the finals under the most challenging of circumstances. They are thrilled and the two of us are thrilled."

According to ASMW host Beth Ward, "This season's championship match was one of the most exciting to date! Despite this crazy year with so many logistical challenges due to COVID-19, our high school teams and our staff pulled off an amazing season!"

The championship match and all matches of the 60th season can be streamed at video.nepm.org.



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Current COVID guidelines will be followed. For any questions, please contact us at belchertownsoccer@gmail.com.

Check us out on Facebook or at our website at: www.belchertownsoccer.com

Strutting their stuff

Gerri and Brian Lefebvre of Belchertown saw turkeys in their yard last recently.



Fun Run raises awareness of being Green

AMHERST – Sixth grade students, teachers, parents and families gathered around Fort River Elementary School in Amherst this weekend for a Fun Run to raise awareness about the Green Future Act.

Throughout the spring, Omar Almodovar's class has been working on a campaign to pass a bill in the Massachusetts legislature called the Green Future Act and the Fun Run was held to raise awareness of that.

"This is a great opportunity to bring people together and have fun, while simultaneously raising awareness about the bill," said sixth grade student Rowan Loneragan.

As the main focus of the event, participants ran a course set up around the school's property.

The course was one mile and was marked with cones and arrows. A map was provided at the start of the race. There was also a giant heart-shaped earth that participants could sign by putting their name on a blue or green heart. This will be given to legislators who are co-sponsoring the Green Future Act, including Senator Joanne Comerford

and Representative Mindy Domb.

According to sixth grader Gideon Antonowicz, "the Green Future Act aims to fund the drive for net-zero emissions in the coming decades."

While the recent climate law signed by Governor Charlie Baker was a great step in the right direction, and sets meaningful goals for Massachusetts, "we now need to act on those goals," said Antonowicz. "Our class decided that getting people together this weekend for a fun event where they could learn about how to stop climate change would make a difference."

Other sixth grade students promoting a campaign for "PROforestation" in Massachusetts were also in attendance, educating participants about a pair of bills in the Massachusetts state legislature that will protect forests on public lands. There were also students from Amherst Regional High School selling copies of their Climate Art Anthology - a collection of student artwork on the topic of climate. The proceeds from the sales of these books will go to the non profit organization "Beyond Coal."



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■ GRANBY

Poetry Reading

GRANBY – There will be a poetry reading of Stephanie Baird’s “Duets: Love poems and prayers” on Thursday, June 3 at 6 p.m. via Zoom as well as in-person, masked, distanced attendance may be possible outdoors at the Granby Free Library.

Stephanie Baird released this first book of poetry in 2020, published by The Orchard Street Press. The COVID-19 Pandemic delayed the official kick-off reading. You are now invited to attend the inaugural 45-minute reading of this chap-book. Some of the original art in the book (by her spouse) will also be shared. There will be time for Q and A. Some of these poems are set in Granby, where Baird has lived and loved (and been inspired) since 2006.

The positive depiction of Granby as a cauldron for the fermentation of this loving, long-term relationship and parenting endeavor, reinforces the rural and farming beauty of Granby as a supportive and vital community for committed partnership and creative family life. These poems will hopefully resonate with attendees, perhaps inspiring some to take up the pen, as well. One copy of the book will be randomly given to an attendee, and other copies will be available for purchase.

Please email granbypubliclibrary@gmail.com to register for attendance and check details.

Granby Jr/Sr High School third quarter honor roll

- GRANBY – Granby Jr. Sr. High School would like to extend congratulations to those students who achieved Honor Roll for the third quarter of the 2020-2021 school year:
- Seventh Grade Maximum Honors** – Kaitlyn Curran, Braeden Gallagher, Mylin Laliberte Witaszek, Ava-Elizabeth Loughman and Annalise Patterson.
- Seventh Grade High Honors** – Benjamin French, Quinn Fuller, Julian Hernandez, Maxwell Kennedy, Braydon LaDuke and Keith Patterson.
- Seventh Grade Honors** - Brandon Chatel, Thomas DeWitt, Addison Gardner, Noah Rodriguez, Stephen Szlosek, Isabella Woods
- Eighth Grade Maximum Honors** - Mabel Carillon, Margaret Crawford, Cassandra Flaherty, Cole Fuller, Gavin Kennedy, Madison Lacasse, Alexis Lapite, Cheyenne Laramée, Ava McFarland, Tristan Moe, Gavin Moreno, Jack Ouellette, Owen Randall, Autumn Sicard, Austin Smith, Stewart Szlosek and Makayla Trudell.
- Eighth Grade High Honors** - Jena Abbott, Nathan Benson, Ethan Fournier, Logan LaPointe, Cameron LeBlanc, Cody White and Molly Zumbruski.
- Eighth Grade Honors** – Aiden Beach, Sawyer Clarke, Victor English, Jr., Emma Parsons, Addison Prignano, Laci Sabourin and Maxwell Seymour.
- Ninth Grade Maximum Honors** - Ciara Charest, Rhea Gagnon, Nicolas Grandmont, Peyton Justin, Cindy Kusumo, Neil Lindberg, Tia Looney, Corey Rondeau, David Silchuk and Emily Tremblay.
- Ninth Grade High Honors** – Benjamin Berger, Madison Bombard, Brandie Dumais, Jessica Holubowich, Sara Lessard, Colin Murdock, Grace Roy and Noel Summerlin.
- Ninth Grade Honors** - Zachary Auclair, Kaitlyn Dwinell, Anthony Gregorio, Nikolas Misiaszek and Phillip Silchuk.
- Tenth Grade Maximum Honors** – Michael Arabik, Markus Baran, Joshua Chateauf, Patrick French, Rebecca Gavel, Emma Hall, Nolan Hall, Jack Hartling, Brady Pete, Katherine Vallee and Robert Walsh.
- Tenth Grade High Honors** - Elizabeth Adamites, Madyson Gaj, Logan Gallagher, Alexander Galusha, Olivia Hauschild, Paul Lucchesi IV, Hao Pham and Samuel Weatherbee.
- Tenth Grade Honors** – Eva Bartosz, Alexis Bogdanovich, Samuel Braese, Griffin Funk, Matthew Gancarz and Lauren Parker.
- Eleventh Grade Maximum Honors** - Alyson Barsalou, Joseph Boyington, Nathan C Breault, Dana Chateauf, Emily Frank, Sienna Hill, Ariana Klekotka, Emma Klekotka, Nick Lashway, Cooper Looney, Tegan Maclure, Karlie Moriarty, Declan Otto, Briana Sosa, Raymond Toth, Kristen Trembley and Gabrielle Walz.
- Eleventh Grade High Honors** – Gabriel Arabik, William Burke, Liberty Conlin, Casey Funk, Kayla Klekotka, Dylan Laramée, Jason Moura, Tyler Sudsbury and Michael Toth.
- Eleventh Grade Honors** – Alexis Ariza, Connor Asselin, Malcolm Brown, Gianna DiRico, Paige Galusha, Nathan Grandmont, Arash Karamshahi, Paige Maziarz, Isaiah Mejias, Madison Seaha, Rhaegan Sheehan, Alaina Shippee, Jordyn Sicard and Brandon Wishart.
- Twelfth Grade Maximum Honors** – Kyra Dimitropolis, Gabriel Godard, Kyla Grenier, Nicolette Nickless, Nicholas Parker, Eric Rakowski, Faith Roy and Emily Vallee.
- Twelfth Grade High Honors** - Dylan Holubowich, Aidan Johnson, Nolan Sullivan and Josuet Torres.
- Twelfth Grade Honors** - Sophia Barker, Zachary Couture, Garrett Cronk, Dylan Moriarty, Jovany Velez and Rosalynn Vollbrecht.

GARDEN • from page 6

straw, grass clippings, chopped leaves or even sheets of newspaper will keep the weeds down and conserve moisture; some say it also helps to prevent disease by preventing backsplash onto the foliage.

Often times experts recommend pruning away the suckers

that form between the main stem and side shoots. If you do you will have fruit that is bigger, but in smaller quantities. Most of all, don’t worry about the rules and regulations, just do your best and have fun with your first gardening experience.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of

Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.



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BUDGET • from page 1

offset the deficit would include several positions: one administrative assistant at \$38,076, three teacher/instructional positions at \$168,278 and four paraprofessionals at \$71,263 for a total of \$277,617.

These listed reductions were not described as layoffs, but instead, as positions held by individuals who have notified the district that they will not be returning.

With these proposed reductions, the deficit is \$450,000, and Tarquini said the schools will be going to the town “for some financial help this year.”

He also described two forms of funding are revolving funds which are being used in their entirety.

“We’ve discussed this that we’re using the full amount of this revenue, in particular circuit breaker and school choice to help offset our operational budget which is not sustainable,” he said. “It’s something that we’re going to have to look at for next year’s budget process and how we can change the way we’re using that funding.”

For the FY21 year there were two allotments of CARES Act funding, ESSER one and ESSER two, one was \$297,968 which was used for staffing, PPE supplies and the rest for technological needs. The other was in FY22, which was \$292,308 which has been allocated but not awarded.

Tarquini said the funding will be available on July 1, 2021 and the schools have until 2023 to use it.

“This year (FY22), we are using most if not all of it to help reduce our operational budget,” he said. “We added a few positions for next year, not knowing what our schools will look like in the fall.”

There is also ESSER three, which is projected to be around \$635,000 and would be eligible to use the funding through September 2024.

The school and Finance Committee determined the funding wouldn’t be used to offset the operational budget.

“We should be using that to deal with some of the effects of the pandemic within the district especially at the high school,” he said. “We’ve come to know there is an air ventilation problem in the high school. We should be using the money to fund those types of things to get kids back into a school that is healthy for instruction.”

There are requirements for the grant, one fifth of it or \$125,000, needs to be spend on enrichment.

“Something that is going to gauge what we lost during the pandemic in terms of instruction and bring that back up to where it should be,” Tarquini said.

He said the rest of the ESSER funding can be used for “essentially anything, but we shouldn’t be using it to offset our operational budget.”

An intro to observing, identifying dragonflies and damselflies

VIRTUAL – Join Athol Bird and Nature Club president Dave Small for a free presentation titled “An Introduction to Observing and Identifying Dragonflies and Damselflies” on June 8 from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m.

This virtual program is geared for the beginner but will be a good refresher for more experienced observers. The program will begin with a discussion on the origins and life history of the Dragons and Damsels followed by a look at the families encountered in Massachusetts with some hints on where to find them. The timing of this presentation is designed to get you ready for the beginning of dragonfly emergence in June. This on-line event is co-sponsored by the Athol Bird and Nature Club, the Northfield Bird Club and Firstlight’s Northfield Mountain Recreation and Environmental Center. Pre-registration is required



COURTESY PHOTO

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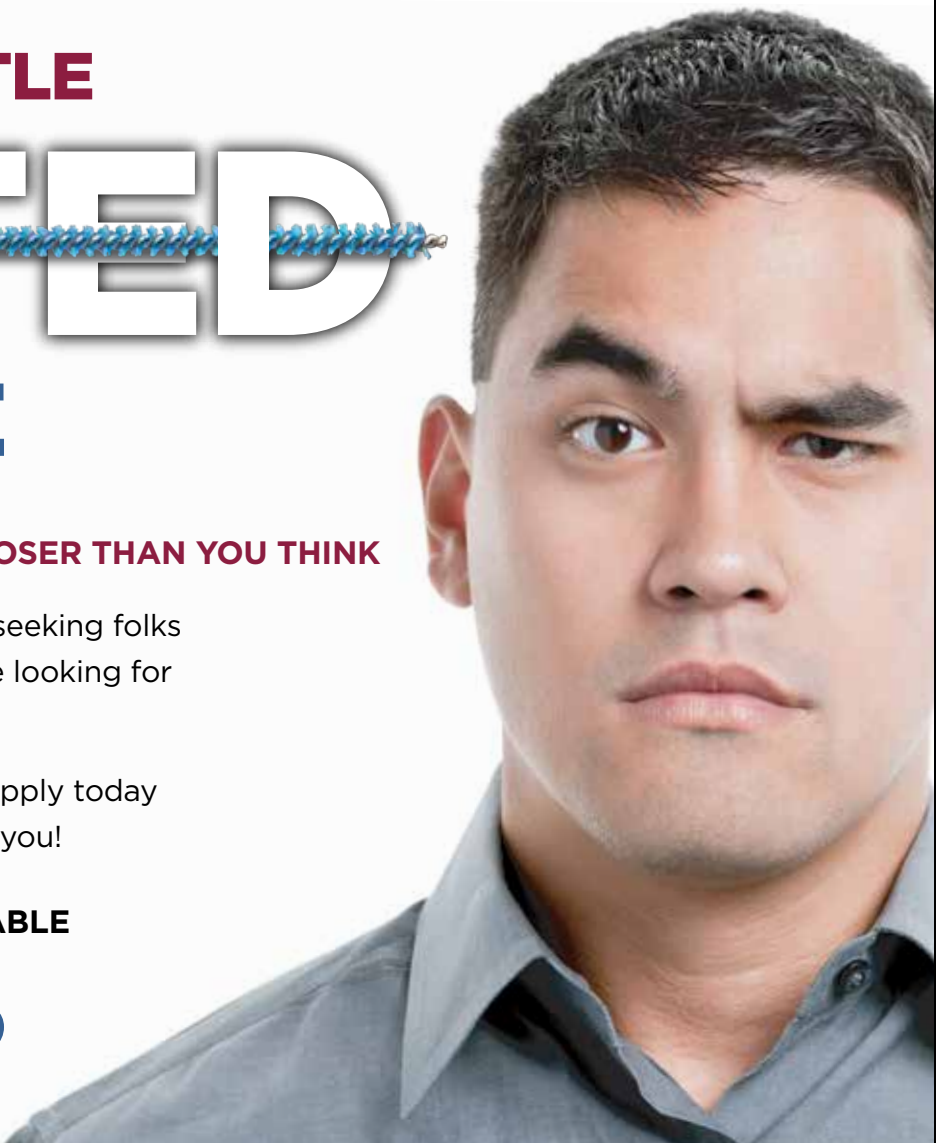
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B-TOWN OFF TO 3-1 START



Rainer Kristensen tries to prevent the ball from getting by with a defensive hit.

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Xavier Williams gets a set.

CHICOPEE – Last week, Belchertown boys volleyball picked up its second sweep of the season with a 3-0 win over Chicopee High School. The boys won 25-17, 26-24, and 25-23 and are now 3-1 this season.



Raghav Suryanarayanan gets the hit from the back line.



William Hill reacts to a serve with a bump.



Andrew Cowles tries to put the ball up for a spike play.

LACROSSE

Pathfinder can't solve Mustangs offense

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—After losing three games in a row to McCann Tech, Springfield Central and Chicopee, the Monson boys lacrosse team made the trip to Pathfinder Regional looking to get back into the win column. The Mustangs, who built a double-digit lead during the second half, cruised to a 15-4 road win over the Pioneers on a sunny and warm afternoon, last Friday.

“It feels great to get back into the win column again,” said first-year Monson head coach Conor Quinn. “We’ve faced a couple of tough teams recently, but all of the players have been working very hard. It was a total team effort in today’s game.”

Monson entered this week’s action with a 3-4 overall record. The Mustangs other two victories this spring came against the Granby Rams.

Pathfinder, who squeaked out a 4-3 home win versus Granby on May 14, had a 1-5 record following the home loss.

“We always want to win every game that we play, but it was nice to beat Granby in a close game last week,” said first-year Pathfinder head coach Mike Himes, who’s a horticulture teacher at Pathfinder. “Everyone did their best in today’s game.”

The warm temperatures were a factor for both teams, especially during the second half.

The Pioneers suffered several injuries and only had nine players on the field for most of the fourth quarter. Himes came very close to ending the game early, but his players wanted to keep playing.

“We had a couple of injuries and we were a man down in the fourth quarter,” Himes said. “It’s very difficult to play a lacrosse game on a hot afternoon.”

A total of three Mustangs players recorded a hat-trick in the road victory.

Senior attack Joe Angelica led the way offensively for the visiting team with six goals and two assists.



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Lee Morse rushes up the field.



Ethan Roberts makes a run with the ball.

The duo of junior attack Nick DiSanti and sophomore attack Cole Stevens each scored three goals.

“Each time two or three players had a hat-trick, we usually win the game,” Quin said. “We

See **LACROSSE**, page 12 •

AT THE RACES

Chris Buffone picks up another win at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Teen sensation Cam Curtis stayed red-hot Saturday, May 22, at Monadnock Speedway, storming to his third Late Model Sportsman feature win in a row. This one was special.

In the Modified main, veteran star Todd Patnode scored his first victory of the young season. Street Stock ace Chris Buffone earned his

third 2021 victory lap, Mini Stock ace Ray King used his second win to move all alone to the top of the points parade, and Nick Houle rocked the Pure Stocks for his first win this year.

Young Gun Aaliyah Tacy made her own memories Saturday on the high banks, earning her first career victory.

It was only a year ago that some-

one dominated the LMS field like Cam Curtis is doing right now at Monadnock. That someone was, of course, Aaron Fellows. But while the Croydon star was 40 and had more than two decades of racing experience under his belt, Curtis is only 15.

Cory Plummer and Robert Hagar led the 23-car LMS lineup to the green as the 52-lap Dean

Smith Memorial event got underway. Plummer led lap one but was then dumped from the point, with Exeter, N.H. hot shoe Frankie Eldredge then taking charge on the ensuing restart.

With a \$1,300 winner’s purse and lots of lap money up for grabs, Eldredge kept the cash coming in for the next 23 laps, but Curtis, then done with conserving his tires,

rocketed to the front, dominating the final 28 go-rounds to top the prestigious Smith Memorial event.

The win helped Curtis expand his points lead after four nights of racing. Eldredge completed his strong night’s work in second, while Austin Brehio’s race-long

See **RACES**, page 12 •

Hicks gets assist in Pioneers draw

TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Connor Hicks, of Monson, assisted on the Pioneers only goal against the Phantoms with 10 minutes remaining in regulation tying the score at 1-1. It wound up being the final score of last Friday night’s home match.

“I’ve been playing soccer for this team for two years and it felt very nice to be a starter in front of the home fans for the first time,” said Hicks following the match. “It was a hard-fought battle tonight, and it was a good game for our fans to watch.”

Hicks, who’s also a member of the AIC men’s soccer team, was one of the Pioneers starting defenders, along with Nicholas Obbrauch, who’s from Rome, Italy, Carlos Emery, who’s from Paysandu, Uruguay, and Federico Gutierrez, who’s from Montevideo, Uruguay. Guillermo Deal and Maxi Viera, who’s the Pioneers captain, are also from Montevideo, Uruguay.

“I’m the only defender who doesn’t speak Spanish which makes it a little bit difficult at times back there,” Hicks said. “I’m learning a lot from those guys and it’s a lot of fun playing soccer with them.”

Hicks had his own rooting sec-

tion at last Friday’s match.

“My family have been my biggest supporters since I began playing soccer 19 years ago. They haven’t missed very many of my games. The atmosphere at the stadium is always very special. Everyone enjoys coming here and they always have a good time.”

Hicks, who graduated from Monson High School in 2017, was a five-year member of the boys varsity soccer team. He helped the Mustangs win back-to-back Division 4 state championship titles in 2015 and 2016. Hicks, who was the hero of the 2016 state finals against Cohasset, scored a total of 32 goals during the final two seasons of his varsity career. He has scored a handful of goals at AIC where he’s a midfielder.

“I normally play on the right wing at AIC,” Hicks said. “I’ve started at right back in the last two matches for the Pioneers. I’m used to playing on that side of the field and I’ll play any position that coach (Federico) Molinari wants me to play. I really enjoy being a member of this soccer team.”

Molinari appreciates Hicks’s dedication, and he earned his starting position.

“Even though he didn’t get very much playing time last season (2019), Conner didn’t miss any

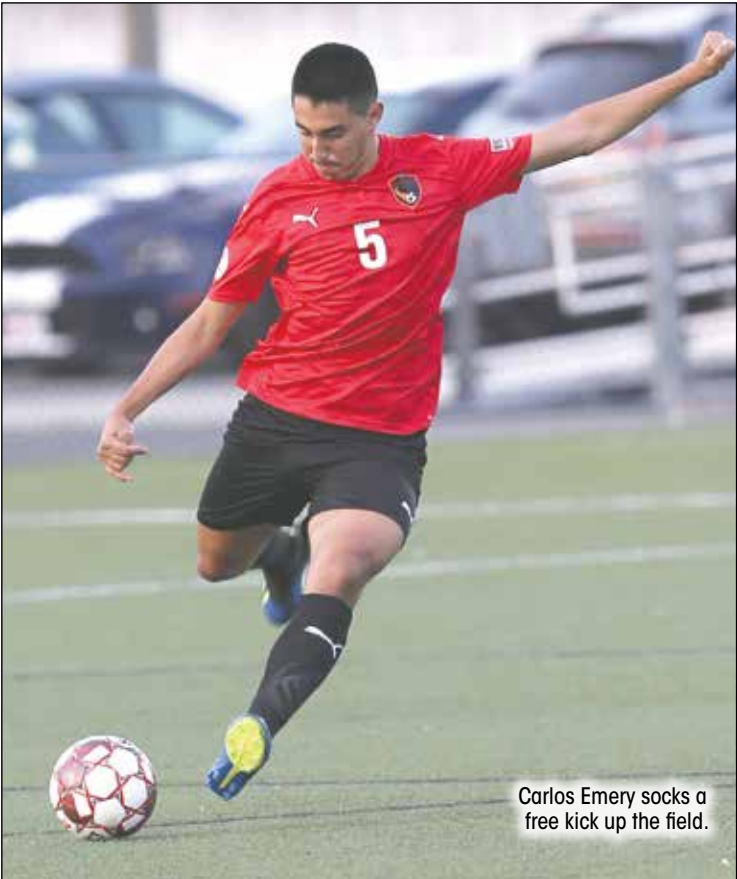


Connor Hicks takes a throw-in.

practices,” Molinari said. “He’s been working very hard so far this season and deserves to be one of the starters. He has really improved a lot.”

Hicks made his first career start on May 15 in the Pioneers 1-0 shutout win at FC Malaga City, which is a new USL League Two club this season from Lagrangeville, New York.

The Pioneers had a 1-1-1 overall record following the home opener. They lost to the Boston Bolts in



Carlos Emery socks a free kick up the field.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

another road match in the season opener.

During the 30th minute of last Friday’s home opener, it looked like Seacoast would be taking a 1-0 lead Mullen made an outstanding diving save on the low shot attempt

by Frantz Pierrot and managed to deflect the ball away. Mullen was credited with a total of four saves.

The Pioneers had a couple of

See **PIONEERS**, page 13 •



Max Sanderson holds the ball away from the defense.

LACROSSE • from page 11

do have a bunch of scorers on this year’s team.”

DiSanti also had a team-high three assists, along with junior midfielder Jason Angelica.

Stevens and Joe Angelica each scored a pair of goals during the opening quarter giving the Mustangs a 4-0 lead.

After both teams switched sides, the Pioneers ended the Mustangs shutout hopes following an unassisted goal by sophomore attack Max Sanderson 31 seconds into the second quarter.

With 10:26 remaining in the first half, Joe Angelica scored his third goal of the match.

Two more goals by DiSanti gave the visiting team a 7-1 lead less than two minutes later.

Then Pathfinder junior attack Cody Ferus pushed a groundball into the cage past Monson junior goalie Scott Kustra (4 saves).

The Mustangs held a 10-2 halftime lead following two more goals by Joe Angelica and another one by sophomore midfielder Jack Jennings during the final five minutes of the first half.

Monson’s three third quarter goals were by eighth grade attack Domanic Fleming, Joe Angelica, and DiSanti. They also added one more goal during the fourth stanza.

The Pioneers final two goals of the match were scored by senior attack Ryan Caron and Ferus.

Pathfinder junior goalie Andrew Hurst made 13 saves.



Edmond Cousineau runs through traffic, looking for the Monson goal.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

RACES • from page 11

solid performance netted him third on the night.

There was no full moon Saturday looking down on Monadnock Speedway, a fact perhaps misunderstood by a portion of the Modified field. It took six cautions to get their 40-lapper completed.

Todd Patnode, charging from row six, took the lead from Kimmy Rivet on lap 19 and sailed off to his first win of the season. Cory Plummer passed Tyler Leary with the white flag in the air to come home second.

Street Stock powerhouse Chris Buffone edged past Tim Wenzel on lap ten and then held him in his shadow the rest of the way to score his third 2021 victory. With Wenzel strong in second, two-time 2020 winner Hillary Renaud came home third.

A week ago, Mini Stock rockers Gordon Farnum and Ray King sat on row five, with Farnum then blasting to victory. This week, with the potent pair now tied atop the points parade, they again started



Todd Patnode picked up the win last Saturday night in the modified race.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

side-by-side in row five.

This time, it was King scoring the easy win. Cody Leblanc – all the way from Bethlehem, N.H., more than three hours away – was strong in second, and Kevin Cormier came home third. Farnum finished sixth on Saturday.

Pure Stocker Nick Houle finished off his impressive weekend by winning Saturday’s 25-lapper. Third the night before at Claremont, Houle went tooth-and-nail with JD Stockwell over their last ten trips around the high banks

to score the win.

Stockwell, rock solid all night, earned the runner-up hardware, with Kyle Robinson Newell impressive in third, just ahead of division strongman Chris Davis. Chris Higbee rounded out the top five after leading the first 15 laps.

Aaliyah Tacy kept Fast Eddie Petruskevicius in her shadow all the way to score her first-ever Young Guns victory. Teagan Edson was third under the checkers in her first career race.

Next Saturday, May 29,

Monadnock Speedway will celebrate Memorial Day weekend with a special Teddy Bear Pools Street Stock 50-lapper, NHSTRA Modifieds, and much more. Post time is 7 p.m.

Monadnock Speedway
May 22 official results:
L A T E M O D E L
SPORTSMEN, 52 LAPS: Camdyn Curtis ,Frankie Eldredge ,Austin Brehio,Robert Hagar,Hayden, Scott,Ryan Carrier,Craig Smith, Robert Melvin Jr,William Kuhn,Cory Plummer,Ryan Bell,Dylan Bodreau,Daniel Comeau,Nancy Muni Ruot,Justin Littlewood,Jason Maki,Cole Littlewood,Tyler Lescord,Scott Beck,Rocky Smith,Ricky Bly,Ben Poland,Christopher Jackman

NHSTRA MODIFIEDS: Todd Patnode, Cory Plummer, Tyler Leary, Matt Kimball, Aaron Fellows, Scott MacMichael, JT Cloutier, Chris Jackman, Eric LeClair, Kimmy Rivet, Bryan Chapin, Ben Byrne

STREET STOCKS: Chris Buffone, Tim Wenzel, Hillary

Renaud, Nate Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Keith Johnson, Paul Smith, Nathaniel Nunez, Scott Zilinsky, Chris Riendeau, (DNS) Leighton Lutz

MINI STOCKS: Ray King, Cody Leblanc, Kevin Cormier, Louie Maher, Kevin Clayton, Gordron Farnum, Kevin McKnight, Jeff Asselin, Mike Douglas, Jake Puchalski. 11. 57X-Patrick Houle, 15C-Trevor Carey, William Chaffee, Robert Kirker, Richard Whipple, Matthew Lambert, Deion Russell, Christopher Grove, (DNS) Josh Wright, (DNS) Ethan Marsh

PURE STOCKS: Nick Houle, JD Stockwell, Kyle Robinson Newell, Chris Davis, Chris Higbee, Jake Bosse, Jason LeRay, Kevin Willey, Jimmy Zellman, Damien Houle, 33-Tim Shepard, Brianna Patnode, Carter Chamberlin, James Decourey, Dakota Lanou, Reagan Buffon, Ryan Lawliss, Brittany Patnode, Cory Lofland, Damon Roy, (DNS) Steven Zebrowski

YOUNG GUNS: Aaliyah Tacy, Eddie Petruskevicius, Teagan Edson, Jeff Moffat Jr., Eddie Gomarlo.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of May 12 through May 18. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 285 calls police responded to, there were 16 incidents, three accidents, three arrest/summons and eight citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

There were no reportable arrests this week.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday, May 12

3:04 p.m. – An officer spoke with an individual in regard to a stolen package taken outside their apartment. The reported the items were ordered through Amazon and delivered but stolen. They then ordered the same items a second time and shortly after they were stolen again. The incident was reported to the apartment management.

Thursday, May 13

9:08 a.m. – Officers to a residence for along with the School Resource Officer for a report of a child out of control.

9:24 a.m. – Officers responded to a report of an altercation between an individual and their former partner during an exchange of children. They were advised of their 201A rights. They reported they had no interest in it and the male party reported they would take out their own charges in court. DCF was contacted.

4:39 p.m. – A debit card found on Jabish St was turned in to the station. A phone number asso-

ciated with the card came back inactive. The card was tagged as found property and put away.

6:51 p.m. – An officer spoke with resident regarding ongoing family issues and related property.

6:38 p.m. – Officers received a call concerning a suspicious vehicle parked in front of a residence for an hour drove up and down the street playing music loudly. The reporting party came later on to speak with an officer to follow up on the situation. The reporting party called later said the same party was parked in front of the residence. The officer responded to the residence. The suspicious party only rolled down the window enough to hand the registration out to the officer. Another resident called to report the person. The party refused to say why he was in the area. The person was polite not forthcoming. The party was advised to park in a public parking lot.

Friday, May 14

1:03 p.m. – An officer responded to North Main St business for a report of damage to a drive-through. The operator struck the roof of the drive through. The Uhaul type vehicle struck the top of the drive-through and there was no damage to the vehicle. There was minor damage to the drive-through and the manager requested an incident report be filed.

1:28 p.m. – An officer spoke with an individual who reported someone turned off the water at their residence. Another party advised they did not turn the water off.

Saturday, May 15

1:29 p.m. – Officers took a report of unemployment fraud.

10:47 p.m. – Officers responded to Ware Rd for an accident. The operator of a motor vehicle was driving when its rear tires started to spin and the operator lost control of the vehicle. To straighten out the vehicle, the operator turned the wheel in

the opposite direction, causing the vehicle to go off the road to the right, coming to rest wedged between two large trees. The operator refused medical assistance. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

Sunday, May 16

12:21 p.m. – Officers responded to an accident on Sargent St. A vehicle traveling west on Sargent St went to turn left into the entrance of McDonalds. A motorcycle travelling east was struck by the vehicle which failed to see the motorcycle. The motorcycle collided with the middle/rear of the vehicle. The operator of the motorcycle was thrown from the vehicle. They were transported from the scene.

Monday, May 17

1:50 p.m. – Officers responded to Depot St for a report of an accident. A motorcycle was travelling east on Depot St and attempted to avoid an obstruction in the roadway. The operator reported they feared if didn't try to avoid the obstruction, it would cause them to lose control. They swerved to avoid the obstruction and collided with the curb causing the motorcycle to lose control. The operator was ejected and fell into the front lawn of a nearby residence. The operator suffered minor injuries and was transported to Baystate Wing. The motorcycle was damaged and a private tow arranged.

5:25 p.m. – Officers responded to a residence to serve a 209A. The person's firearm and ammunition were surrendered.

6:39 p.m. – Officers took a report from a person who got a letter from an out of state department containing their Social Security number. The party was advised to fill out a form online. The person's information was used for an out of state unemployment claim. They were told to file this information with their credit and banking companies.

Tuesday, May 18

2:01 a.m. – Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics.

Granby Police

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 169 calls for the week of May 14 through May 21. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

Friday, May 14

7:25 p.m. – Officers investigated a fraudulent purchase.

Sunday, May 16

5:16 p.m. – Officers investigate motor vehicle accident on Porter St. A vehicle struck a mailbox.

Monday, May 17

5:18 a.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident on Ferry Hill Rd. The operator was issued a criminal citation for suspended motor vehicle operation.

8:42 p.m. – Officers investigate motor vehicle accident on West State St. The operator drove off the roadway and caused property damage.

10:15 p.m. – James Stegall, 45, of 207 Jamaica St, Springfield, was arrested on a warrant.

Tuesday, May 18

1:56 p.m. – Richard Kulig, 37, of 40 Cummings Rd, Ware, was arrested on charges of possession of class A drugs.

Wednesday, May 19

11:04 p.m. – Officers investigated a report of resident being bitten by a neighbor's dog.

PIONEERS • from page 12

chances late in the half, but the contest was still scoreless at the break.

The Phantoms, who arrived in Ludlow with a 2-0-0 season record, took a 1-0 lead following a free kick during the 69th minute. The free kick was taken from the right sideline by Jamie Davis and the ball sailed to the far post where Maxwell Murray booted it into the right corner of the goal.

A little more than ten minutes later, Hicks sent a pass into the box where Patrick Agyemang knocked it into the right corner of the goal tying the score.

"I crossed the ball into the box to Pat and he finished off the play by scoring a goal," Hicks said. "It was actually my first career point as a member of the Pioneers."

Agyemang, who's from East Hartford, Connecticut, entered the match during the 73rd minute.

It was his first goal of the season. Ignacio Lerech, who's from Tucuman, Argentina, netted the Pioneers goal late in the second half against FC Malaga City.

With a little more than five minutes remaining, a shot attempt by Gabriel Ganzer, who's a first-year Pioneers player from Taquarucu do Sul, Brazil was saved by Seacoast goalie Christian Garner.

The Pioneers are scheduled to play two more road matches against AC Connecticut (May 26) and Seacoast United (May 29) before returning to the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium on June 4 to face FC Malaga City.



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WATER/SEWER MAINTENANCE WORKER The town of Monson is seeking a full-time Water/Sewer Maintenance Worker to provide technical work to operate and maintain the water and sewer systems. License requirements include Massachusetts CDL Class B and Hoisting 2A, or ability to obtain within 3 mo. of hire; Massachusetts D-2 and T-1 Certified Operator of Drinking Water Facilities, or ability to obtain within 6 mo. of hire or at digression of the Superintendent. Acknowledgement of Tuition Reimbursement Policy Required. 10 days paid vacation after 90 days continuous employment, FY2022 salary min \$19.01 max \$23.74. Contact the Monson Treasurer's Office at tel. (413) 267-4125, fax (413) 238-6127, or e-mail astaples@monson-ma.gov. Completed applications must be received at the Monson Treasurer's Office, 110 Main Street, Monson, MA 01057 before 4:00 p.m. June 4, 2021. This Institution is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED

ASSESSORS CLERK AND/OR ASSISTANT ASSESSOR The Town of Granby is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Assessors Clerk (AC) and/or Assistant Assessor (AA) for a full-time position (30 hours). Preferred candidates must possess (AC)a high school diploma and one year of office administration and/or record keeping experience; experience in a municipal setting and in dealing with the public strongly preferred; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. (AA) Demonstrates experience and/or schooling required. Certified or certifiable as Mass Accredited Assessor. Knowledge of Mass. Principals of real and personal property values. Must enjoy interacting with the public, real estate agents and other town offices. Job descriptions and applications are available at the Town of Granby Selectboard Office 10-B W State St Granby MA 01033 or by calling 413-467-7177. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Salary depends on qualifications and experience. Please submit cover letter and resume to: Town of Granby Board of Assessors C/O Board of Selectmen 10-B West State St., MA 01033.

CARPENTERS & LABORERS WANTED. Immediate employment. Working local Ware/Palmer. Call **(413)531-1936**

CUSTODIAL- PART-TIME position available. Experience preferred however will train. Call Pride Cleaning Contractors Inc. **413-283-7087.**

OUTREACH WORKER Town of Hardwick is looking for Community Outreach Worker. The position is to perform social service and administrative work in maintaining contact with the town's elderly to assess their needs, encourage participation in group activities and make referrals as necessary; all other related work as required for both the Towns of Hardwick and Barre. Cover letter and resumes may be sent to coa@townofbarre.com or Eileen Clarkson, Director, 40 West Street, Suite 433, Barre, MA 01005

WELL ESTABLISHED WESTERN MA GENERAL CONTRACTOR seeking highly motivated hands-on Supervisor to oversee filed personnel and subcontractors on various commercial projects. Construction Supervisor's License, OSHA 30 & Hydraulics License Preferred. Salary is commensurate with experience. Email resume to **pjc@builders.com**

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is seeking an experienced Grants Manager to perform all grants accounting and grants management functions. This position serves as a key member of the finance team to perform grants management oversight and coordination related to all capital projects; conduct periodic account analysis, reconciliation, and reporting; prepare inventory certification for the Federal Transit Authority (FTA); and maintain all related records and documentation in compliance with regulatory requirements and established procedures. This position also serves as DBE Liaison for the PVRTA. This is an excellent career opportunity for a seasoned grants management professional. Wage range \$25-\$30/hour depending on experience, with excellent benefits package including pension, 457b, generous paid time off benefits and more.

If you would like to be considered for this outstanding career opportunity, please review a detailed position description and qualification requirements on our website at www.pvta.com/careers prior to applying. Please upload cover letter and resume via our website or mail directly to PVRTA, Attn: Human Resources Manager, 665 Cottage Street, Springfield, MA 01104. AA/EEO/DF/ADA.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

A notice that the financial records of 2020, Form 990, for Belchertown Education Foundation, Inc. are available for public inspection by contacting Lesley Mugford, P.O. Box 435, Belchertown, MA 01007 during normal business hours. Please call (413) 729-9090 for an appointment.
05/27/2021

Public Hearing Special Permit Legal Notice Belchertown Planning Board

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 11, the Planning Board will hold a

public hearing to discuss a Site Plan Approval application for a non-profit residential education center, submitted by The Cutchins Program for Children and Families, 52 Old Bay Road, Map 229, Lots 17 and 16.1, Plaza Avenue, Map 228, Lot 44.05, Belchertown, MA, Owner-The Wayne A. Lebrun Living Trust.

Note- this is a revised site plan to include Parcel 228-44.05.

A public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Remotely by Planning Board, Belchertown
Date: June 8, 2021

Time: 7:05 pm
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet

or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/571586205>
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The application is available for inspection on the Belchertown.org - Planning Board website.

James Natle
Chairman, Planning Board
05/20, 05/27/2021

Please check
the accuracy of
your legal notice
prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling).
Also, be sure
the requested
publication date
coincides with
the purpose of the
notice, or as the
law demands.
Thank you.

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Friday, May 28

- Thank you!



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